

POSTAL SLUMP OF \$21,000,000 CAUSED BY WAR

Economies Cut Deficit to
\$11,000,000, Says
Burleson.

ASKS MORE PAY FOR RAILROADS

The Postmaster General Urges
Change to Space Basis—Hits
Dishonest Ads.

Washington, Dec. 11.—Postmaster General Burleson's annual report, made public to-night, says that the European war has cost the American postal service \$21,000,000, but that economies of administration have reduced the deficit to a little more than \$11,000,000 for the fiscal year ended last June. Considerations of service, the report says, were placed above all others, and notwithstanding adverse revenue conditions, expansion and improvement of postal facilities continued.

Had it not been for economical reorganization, begun before the war started and continued since, the Postmaster General asserts that the deficit would have been at least \$24,000,000. Of the total deficit, however, his analysis of the department's finances declares that all but a little more than \$500,000 was the result of increases of postal salaries and additional railway mail pay required by law.

Railways Should Have More Pay.

"In justice to the railways," says the report, "the Postoffice Department and the public, it is a matter of increasing necessity that there be enacted as soon as practicable the proposed legislation recommended by the Postoffice Department, authorizing the change from the weight basis to the space basis of adjusting compensation to the railroads for carrying the mails and providing liberal and adequate rates of pay, with which recommendations the conclusions of the Joint Committee of Congress, which reported August 31, 1914, are substantially in accord."

The report notes that the fraud order statutes are being vigorously enforced with good results. "The attitude and activity of the Postoffice Department is assisting materially in purifying the advertising columns of magazines and newspapers," it continues. "Inducement to the publishers interested in this movement have kept in close touch with the department. This cooperation has resulted in wide dissemination of information which tends to prevent acceptance by publishers of advertisements of a fraudulent nature."

"During the last year seventy-one citations to show cause why a fraud order should not be issued have been sent out and fifty-seven fraud orders have been issued. The number barred from the mails during the year under these laws amounted to 1,000. The greatest expansion in the post-office, the report shows, was in the parcel post. Statistics gathered from fifty principal postoffices show it to be half of all the postal business, and that more than a billion parcels are being transported every year. Before the parcel post was established not more than one-fourth that number were handled. The amount of postage collected from that source approached \$2,000,000 during the first fifteen days of October this year alone."

While the war has crippled the money order system, it has boomed the postal savings banks. The number of depositors and the amount deposited exceeded any year since the banks were established. More than a half million depositors were on the books at the end of June, 1915, a gain of 35 per cent for the year, and the banks had on deposit nearly \$60,000,000, a gain of more than 50 per cent.

The increase of deposits in New York was 199 per cent; Bridgeport, Conn., 183 per cent; Brooklyn, 167 per cent; Paterson, 162 per cent; Jersey City, 122 per cent; Detroit, 112 per cent. Other cities showed gains ranging from 50 to 100 per cent. Of all the depositors more than 68 per cent were foreign-born, and they had more than 71 per cent of the total deposits. The figures are represented as showing plainly the attraction of the postal banks to the immigrant.

SCULPTOR SUICIDE WITH GUN

Paul Merlot Was Despondent Over Loss of Brothers in French Army. New Brunswick, N. J., Dec. 11.—Paul Merlot, thirty-five years old, a well known New York sculptor, living at 148 West 103d Street, killed himself with a shotgun Friday night while visiting Lucien V. Bruno, at Metuchen. The body was found to-day.

It is believed Mr. Merlot had brooded over a disease he believed incurable and the loss of two brothers in the French army. Lack of orders, owing to the war, is another motive given. He had spent the last month at the home of his friend Bruno.

Yesterday Merlot went to New York and returned to the Bruno home last night. That he planned his suicide is evidenced by a letter he mailed to his wife which he mailed to her and placing a deed for a burial plot in Calvary Cemetery on his bureau.

SENATE LEADERS PUNISH RADICALS

Kenyon and Norris Kept
from Foreign Relations
Committee.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]
Washington, Dec. 11.—Conservatism won against seniority in the fight for the places made vacant in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee by Senators Root and Burton. Radicalism in general and a willingness for an embargo on arms in particular prevented Senators Kenyon, of Iowa, and Norris, of Nebraska, from getting these places. In point of service they were entitled to them, as they were the oldest Senators to apply for such assignments.

But, knowledge that the Foreign Relations is to be a most ticklish committee this year—for it will handle many resolutions, bills and treaties affecting international relations—aroused caution among the conservative members of the Republican steering committee. It was said in one quarter that an unusual was made by some of the members of the steering committee to older Republican Senators to make application for these vacancies, so as to give a valid excuse for not putting out radicals.

One of the members of the steering committee itself finally accepted the place—Senator Oliver, of Pennsylvania. Senator Brandegee, of Connecticut, was induced to give up his place on the Interstate Commerce Committee and go on the Foreign Relations Committee. The vote of the Republican steering committee in each case was 6 to 3. Senators Lodge, Smoot, du Pont, Oliver, Page and Curtis voted for Brandegee and Oliver. Senators Cummins, Jones and Grønna voted for Kenyon and Norris.

In place of Senator Brandegee on the Interstate Commerce Committee will be put Senator Miles Poindexter of Washington, up to the close of last session the only party Progressive who owned up to it in the Senate. The addition of Mr. Poindexter makes the Republican membership of this committee rather radical. Senator Clark is the ranking Republican and Senators Cummins and LaFollette are members. The conservative Republicans are represented by Senators Oliver, Lippitt and Townsend. A sop was thrown to Senator Norris in the place on the Banking and Currency Committee made vacant by Senator Crawford's defeat.

Senator Root's place on the Judiciary Committee will be filled by Senator Works, of California. The place of Senator Burton as watch dog of the Treasury on Rivers and Harbors legislation will be taken on the Committee on Commerce by Senator Kenyon, of Iowa. It is understood that Senator Harding, of Ohio, who was elected in Senator Burton's place, will also go on the Commerce Committee.

The Republicans of the Senate will caucus Monday morning to approve the assignments. The Progressive wing, dissatisfied over the defeat of Senators Kenyon and Norris, is planning to protest.

BURTON FOR PREPAREDNESS
Resigns as President of Peace Society—Succeeded by Dr. G. W. Kirchwey.

Washington, Dec. 11.—Ex-Senator Theodore E. Burton, a leading candidate for the Republican nomination for the Presidency, in resigning as president of the American Peace Society here to-day strongly urged that the organization should offer no opposition to national preparedness.

Dr. George W. Kirchwey, of New York, was elected to succeed him, and Mr. Burton, after declining election as honorary president, was chosen one of the two presidents. Mr. Burton's resignation was because of his retirement from Congress, and consequent residence in Ohio, makes it impossible for him to attend the meetings of the society.

ITALIAN GARDEN BECOMES SKATING RINK.



Open air ice surface in courtyard of Hotel Baltimore, to be ready to-morrow. Below, Mrs. H. Le Roy Whitney, who tried the rink yesterday.

SUFFRAGE DINERS GIVEN WAR TALK

Wainwright Pops "Preparedness" at Congressional Union Dinner.

"NATIONAL" ENVOYS IN CAPITAL TO-DAY

Margaret Wilson and Mrs. Champ Clark Will Be Among Delegates to Federal Body.

By EMMA BUGBEE.

Washington, Dec. 11.—Rear Admiral Richard Wainwright came out for preparedness and "votes for women" all in one sentence at the banquet of the Congressional Union to-night in the "Little White House."

"The vital question of the day is preparedness. We must increase the army, the navy and the number of votes for women," he said, amid shouts of applause. "We must defend our homes not only from the enemy from outside, but from the enemies on the inside. The antidote against war is the fleet. The antidote against graft is the Susan B. Anthony amendment. Women suffer more from war than men do, and the greatest problem of war is the protection of the home. The women of America realize that the lion and the lamb cannot lie down together unless the lamb loses its individuality. They are ready and willing to make sacrifices to save the lamb from slaughter."

The admiral sat the same table with Mrs. Crystal Eastman Benedict, peace enthusiast, and many of her sisters in the pacifist family. He stood on this subject, the protection of the home, with great good nature. It was no time for argument, anyway. This was a jubilee dinner. The Susan B. Anthony amendment had almost passed Congress, and the Congressional Union was perfectly great, so why argue about anything?

Miss Paul Had No Ticket.

Miss Alice Carpenter struck the keynote of the rejoicing when she said: "The time for the state referendum is passed. The public has all the education it can stand on this subject. Personally, I never want to hear another suffrage speech again. It is our task now to crystallize the public opinion formed by the referendum—how we have over 1,000,000 votes in the four campaign states, you know—into active practical political action. It is no use trying another state campaign. The forces that hate us will combine so energetically that we can never win against them."

Mrs. Benedict, Frank P. Walsh, Frederick C. Howe and Mrs. Janet Richards were the other speakers. There were shouts and jubilation for the two envoys, Mrs. Laura Field and Miss Frances Joffe, and the two women who drove the "cross-country car," Miss Ingeborg Kindstedt and Miss Maria Kindberg. When the cheering and the shouting died, the members of the Union looked around for Miss Alice Paul, the general of the (almost) victorious army, intending to start in again on her, they couldn't find her. Then those at the table of honor remembered that she had not been there all evening. She had had seven tickets forced into her hands at different times, but with her usual impulsiveness had given them all away. When the cheering for the banquet came, she had no ticket and the doorkeeper wouldn't let her in.

National Delegates Arrive.

"It's a shame! I thought she would get one square meal this week and this," said one who has been watching the visionary little general conduct her week's campaign with supreme indifference to the commissary department, "but she won't even give her a tea party next week without any speeches at all to mitigate the food. She will get the speeches to-morrow afternoon at the mass meeting at the Belasco Theatre, when the Congressional Union will wind up its week with hallooing from everybody on its roll of honor. This will be the last time the Union will be unchallenged mistress of the capital for the national delegates begin to arrive to-morrow afternoon."

Official Washington will smile on the national association as never before. Miss Margaret Wilson on serving on the honorary committee of arrangements; President Wilson will receive the dele-

gates at the White House on Tuesday afternoon, his last public reception before his wedding. Speaker and Mrs. Clark will sit in the convention with the Missouri delegation. The women from Missouri are coming on a "Shaw Special," and they say Dr. Anna Howard Shaw will have to show them some good reason why she shouldn't be reflected national president before they give their votes to any one else.

In addition to the five hundred delegates to the National, Washington will suffer an invasion by anti-suffragists, too. Mrs. Arthur Murray Dodge has engaged twenty-five rooms at the Shoreham for the days of the anti-suffrage convention, which opens on Tuesday. The anti will be received by President Wilson on Tuesday morning. They want to see him, to thank him for not doing any more than he did for votes for women.

Doors Small for Hoop Skirts.

Four hundred hoop skirts arriving for the Susan B. Anthony pageant Monday evening, caused the utter demoralization of suffrage tempers to-day. The dress rehearsal had to be called off, for the humiliating reason that hoop skirts couldn't be gotten through the door of the "Little White House." The pageant itself is to be given in Convention Hall, the stage of which has been enlarged to twice its original size to accommodate the feminine glories of the day of Susan B.'s youth.

The pageant tells the story of the suffrage leader's early interest in the anti-slavery movement, her meeting with Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Mrs. Amelia Bloomer, the heroine who invented them. There will be a mob scene, a torchlight procession, a thrilling court scene, and a representation of a birthday party given eighty school children presented Miss Anthony with flowers in honor of her eightieth anniversary.

Dr. Anna Howard Shaw, who was Miss Anthony's closest friend, will overlook the fact that the pageant is given by the hated Congressional Union, and will occupy one of the boxes as a tribute to her old partner in the cause.

Between the episodes of the pageant, there will be living pictures, showing five periods of the struggle of women for the franchise. Washington debutantes, noted for their statusqueens, have been recruited for the part of the "Patience" on a monument these many weeks, until even Miss Hazel McRay, the pageant director is going around boasting of their beauty.

Pioneers in Pageant.

Among those who will take part in the pageant proper are Mrs. Florence Kays Hunsicker, K. Susan, Mrs. Charlotte Stanley, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucretia Mott, Miss Catherine K. McCormick.

The patronesses are Mrs. Christian Hinrichs, Mrs. George Odell, Mrs. G. Brown Miller, Mrs. Henry Blount, Mrs. Mervin Thompson, Mrs. Barrett Ridgely, Mrs. Robert Peary, wife of Rear Admiral Peary, U. S. N.; Mrs. Richard Wainwright, Mrs. Robert Baker, Mrs. Henry MacFarland, Mrs. Appleton P. Clark, Mrs. Theodore Noyes, Mrs. Harvey W. Wiley, Mrs. Henry Graves, wife of the Chief Forester; Mrs. C. H. Sigbee, wife of Rear Admiral Sigbee; Mrs. Clara D. Noyes, of the Neighbor Hood House; Mrs. George Sutherland, wife of Senator Sutherland; Mrs. Reed Smoot, Mrs. William M. Borah, Mrs. Thomas J. Walsh, Mrs. Frank W. Mondell, Mrs. Laura Field and Mrs. Henry Ashurst, wife of Senator Ashurst.

URGES WAR REFERENDUM

Senator Owen Would Have Votes Decide U. S. Aggressive Action.

Washington, Dec. 11.—Senator Owen, of Oklahoma, would have the Federal Constitution amended to prevent any war of aggression by this nation without approval by popular vote. He will press a resolution providing for the following amendment to the Constitution: "No war of aggression shall be waged by the army, or navy, or the United States, except upon a declaration of war by Congress, ratified and approved by a majority of votes cast in a majority of the Congressional districts of the United States."

U. S. SEND FOOD TO GERMANY

Continued from page 1

nounced in Berlin that all efforts to continue the parcel post between the two governments were to be given up. Shipments continue, however, via Holland, until the Holland-America Line filed its objections with the German government, alleging that the regularity of the mail service could not be guaranteed because of the fact that such mail was subject to examination and seizure. It was then that that class of mail was declared unreceivable. Parcels sent from Germany to Spain and Portugal also were turned back by the French government.

On November 15 the United States government issued an order to the postmasters notifying them that they were not to accept parcel post packages for shipment to Germany or Austria. The thousands of packages of food-stuffs which were being presented daily at the postoffices for shipment to the Central Powers were refused. It was then that the German sympathizers turned to the first class mails for sun-

plying their countrymen. The shipment of any size to be noted by the authorities.

Hungry Berlin Rioters Insult Crown Prince

London, Dec. 11.—The German Reichstag is grappling with the problem of the food supply. Various party schemes have been presented to the budget committee, all of which include the establishment of maximum prices. The Reichstag proposes a most radical plan for a bureau controlling prices and the distribution of food.

Among its features are the limitation of the consumption of the principal commodities in hotels and restaurants and special help for the poorer classes. Copenhagen and Amsterdam furnish reports of a demonstration in Berlin, with the crowds shouting for peace, even insulting the Crown Prince, who has arrived at Berlin, but there is no direct confirmation of these stories.

With the peace interpellation out of the way, Berlin dispatches say, the Reichstag will be able to devote its undivided attention to the problem of the nation's food supply, discussed at length by the Budget Committee. The resolutions of the various party groups presenting their views of how the problem should be dealt with and the general subject of food regulation will, it is understood, be debated in an open session of the Reichstag, probably on Monday.

The proposal of the Centre party was to establish a central bureau, including among its members representatives from the Reichstag, to control food regulation and distribution.

Zurich, Dec. 11.—Reports reaching Switzerland from Austria say that the supply of coal in Vienna is so small that the question of lighting the city has become acute. The Burgo-master has appealed to the government to provide coal for the municipal gas works, so that the capital may not be left in darkness.

The cities of Laibach and Styria, it is reported, already are without gas on account of the lack of coal.

BALKS AT CHECK STAMP

Tillman Says Democratic Party Would Be Cursed By Those Taxed.

Washington, Dec. 11.—"Every time a man wrote a bank check he would have to lick a stamp and curse the Democratic party," declared Senator Tillman, Democrat, to-day, in announcing he proposed to fight President Wilson's suggestion that a stamp on bank checks be included in the war revenue law.

"I prefer an increased graduated income tax, and whenever a man has an income of \$1,000,000, I would take all in excess of that," Tillman added. "A million a year is enough for any man, and the government needs the money."

MAY LET BOY-ED REMAIN IN U. S.

Von Papen, Too, but Only
in a Private Capacity,
Says Washington.

MUST GO IF ALLIES GIVES SAFE CONDUCT

Germany Expected to Refuse if
Enemies Attempt to Extract
Parole from Officers.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Dec. 11.—The British and French ambassadors have transmitted to their governments Secretary Lansing's request for safe conduct for Captains von Papen and Boy-Ed. Neither of the embassies is able to forecast its government's action, but the feeling here is that it will be governed largely by the earnestness with which the State Department presses its request.

It is admittedly possible that the Allied governments will demand a promise from the two attaches not to take part in the war before granting the request. In that event, the State Department expects Germany to demur and to protest that the permission to return to Germany must be unconditional if given at all.

It was indicated at the State Department to-day that Boy-Ed and von Papen would be permitted to remain in the United States if safe conduct were not granted. There would be no objection to their departure to Mexico, but it is understood Carranza will not permit their entry into his country. The State Department still maintains that a safe conduct is unnecessary for a diplomatic officer, but is inclined to sympathize with the German contention that Great Britain would be certain to seize them if they attempted to cross without a safe conduct.

If the recalled attaches remain in the United States, it will be in a strictly private capacity, and they will be no longer immune from prosecution for any illegal acts they may commit. The Secretary did not ask for safe conducts for the attaches' successors because none have yet been named. He is of the opinion, however, that there will be no difficulty about securing them when the time arrives.

The safe conducts were asked by Secretary Lansing in compliance with a personal request by Emperor William, made when notification of the recall was transmitted to the State Department. Successors for the successors likewise were requested by the Emperor.

There was no indication as to how soon the attaches would leave the United States. Moreover, the State Department does not expect them to perform any official business of the embassy or to continue the "improper activities" in military and naval matters which led to the request for their withdrawal. One was plainly gratified to-day over the outcome of a situation which had apparently been fraught with serious difficulties. As a result Secretary Lansing is free to continue negotiations with Germany for settlement of the Lusitania controversy and the cases of other foreign diplomatic and consular officers. It is expected that the case of Alexander von Hoy, Austrian consul general at New York, will be the first to be acted upon.

HOTEL ICE RINK TO OPEN

Frozen Lake at the Biltmore Ready for Skaters To-morrow.

The first open air ice skating rink that has ever been built in New York hotel will be ready for skaters to-morrow.

With the growth of the popularity of ice-skating, the management of the Biltmore Hotel decided to turn their Italian Gardens into an artificial lake and, at a cost of approximately \$10,000, made an oval of real ice, 50x75 feet, closed ten rooms. This room is kept at an even temperature by steam heat and a large open fire. Colored lanterns will illuminate the skating surface at night. An ice carnival will be held at the opening, the proceeds to be devoted to charity. Daily exhibitions by Alfred and Sigfrid Kaess, skating champions of Switzerland, and late of the Hippodrome, will be given. The Biltmore ice gardens are under the management of Holland Ball Judkins, assistant manager of the hotel.

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